

Georgetown City Council Meeting
Monday, April 25, 2011
6:00 pm

The Georgetown City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Everette Varney with all members present. After a moment of silence Councilwoman Tackett led the pledge.

1. Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tackett and seconded by Councilwoman Skinner to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2011 city council meeting. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

2. Acknowledgement Receipt of Bills:

Mayor Varney requested council acknowledge receipt of bills. **Council acknowledged receipt of bills.**

3. Public Concerns:

African American Cemetery

D. T Wells representing Scott County Middle School asked citizens for help with maintenance of the African American Cemetery. A Curious Forever grant has been secured to help with the maintenance of the cemetery. Mr. Wells and his students will be working May 13th from 9 AM until 2 PM.

Downtown Businesses

Kitty Dougoud announced that a store and church would be opening downtown. R & R Surplus a sundry store will occupy the space where the Auction Gallery was located. The church will open where Scrap, Paper, Scissors was previously located.

Farmers Market

Mrs. Dougoud requested that Court Square be closed Friday mornings for the Farmers Market beginning May 27, 2011 through September 2, 2011 from 7:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Mrs. Dougoud also made a request to close the square for Thursday's on the Square which will begin with the Taste of Georgetown on June 30, 2011. Thursday's on the Square will end on September 1, 2011. A motion was made by Councilman Thompson and seconded by Councilman McEuen. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Judy Rembacki- Health Benefits for Council Members

Mrs. Rembacki expressed her concerns about council members receiving health benefits provided by the City of Georgetown.

Steve Price – Kroger Right of Way

Mr. Price referred to a letter that he had previously distributed to council. Mr. Price is concerned about local horticulture and the building of the new Kroger

Store. He feels that if citizens would buy what they had to from Kroger and grow the rest, there would be no need for a new Kroger.

Phillip Puckett- 102 Grisham Drive

Mr. Puckett is concerned about the connection of Grisham Drive to Kroger. Mr. Puckett stated he has a small lot and his children are often close to the street. He likes his nice quiet neighborhood and would like it to remain safe.

Austin Moman – Run Like a Fool 5K Run

Mr. Moman asked that the streets be closed for a 5K run Saturday April 29, 2011 to benefit Shriners Children's Hospital. A motion was made by Councilman McEuen and seconded by Councilwoman Skinner. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Barbara Fullerton – Grisham Drive

Barbara Fullerton distributed a petition that residents of the Grisham Drive area had signed. The petition was against the Grisham Drive extension. Ms. Fullerton stated that this area was built as a residential area and that it was not meant for heavy traffic.

Patricia Dillon – 106 Grisham Drive

Ms. Dillon helped in getting signatures for the petition. She likes her quiet neighborhood and would like it to remain that way. Ms. Dillon believes the streets are too narrow for commercial traffic and if the extension was added some residents would have trouble getting out of their driveways.

4. Mayor's Comments:

Freddie Clifton - Retirement

A proclamation was read in honor of Freddie Clifton who worked for the City of Georgetown for thirty years.

John Cook – Retirement

A proclamation was read in honor of John Cook who worked for the City of Georgetown for twenty-three years.

Building Safety Month

A joint proclamation between the Mayor and the Scott County Judge Executive was read declaring the month of May Building Safety Month.

Stewardship Week

A joint proclamation between the Mayor and the Scott County Judge Executive was read declaring April 24, 2011- May 1, 2011 Stewardship Week.

5. City Attorney:

Municipal Order 11-004 Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Deed from the Kentucky Municipal Finance Corporation

A municipal order authorizing the mayor to execute a deed from the Kentucky Municipal Finance Corporation to the Marshall Park property. A motion was made by Councilman Prather and seconded by Councilman Singer to approve

municipal order 11-004. **Motion Approved, with Councilman Lusby recusing himself.**

Kroger Construction Easement

Logan Askew City Attorney referred to the minutes from the March 10, 2011 Planning and Zoning meeting. This is the meeting where a summary of the evidence that was considered by the planning commission before it voted to accept the development plan. Mr. Askew explained that as part of the record before the planning and zoning commission there were two pieces of property where there was discussion about Kroger's construction of roadway improvements. One suggestion was for the city to convey the property to Kroger and they would develop and convey back to city. The other suggestion was that we could grant them a construction easement of that property. The areas that Mr. Askew referred to are highlighted on the map provided by Planning and Zoning that was given to council prior to this meeting. The first area is a triangle where the Marshall Park Property meets Grisham Drive. It has been agreed that the road would be laid over this area and after the execution of this deed the property would be owned by the city. The second area is in the top center portion of the property. A retractable gate has been discussed for this roadway. The gate would be erected at the point of what is now the end of the Suffoletta and Marshall Park parking lots. The gate would reduce cut through traffic during peak times at the parks. This area will also be city property after the execution of the deed. Kroger has agreed to construct the roads in these two areas according to the city specifications. When the roads are constructed and the city has been satisfied the city will then take responsibility for these roads for maintenance. Mr. Askew stated that during the planning and zoning meeting there had been some opposition from citizens living in the Grisham Drive area and that this evening Bob Cornett with the Roberts Group the engineering firm and a Kroger representative were in attendance. Kroger is willing to make any changes that need to be made.

Discussion

Councilman Prather asked if one of the roads was approved would that automatically mean both roads had been approved. Mr. Askew answered yes because in order for the cut through to occur they must be able to build on the triangular piece of property which is owned by the city. Councilman Singer stated that these were two separate issues and requested that the issues be severed. Mr. Askew said this could be done. **A motion was made by Councilman Singer and seconded by Councilman Penn to sever the Grisham Drive extension and the Marshall Park turnaround.**

Mr. Askew asked that an explanation be given for why the road was configured this way.

Mr. Cornett with the Roberts Group summarized the three issues that Mr. Askew had stated earlier. The city owns a right of way that runs from the bypass to the Marshall Park parking lot. A road was never developed here so that easement must be vacated and another right of way must be established. The triangular area at Grisham Drive and the turnaround at the end of Marshall Park are the two areas that have been approved by planning and zoning.

Councilman Singer asked Mr. Askew if an ordinance would need to be passed for the easement release. Mr. Askew said that an ordinance would need to be passed but that he was still waiting on written notarized consent from the abutting property owners. He is in possession of the consent from Pinnacle but is waiting on consent from the State of Kentucky. Action will be taken at the next council meeting

Councilman Singer questioned if the previous motion he had made about the severing of the triangular portion of land and the turnaround had been seconded.
Motion Approved, with Councilman Lusby recusing himself.

A motion was made by Councilman Singer and seconded by Councilman Prather to approve the turnaround with gate.

Mr. Askew asked Earl Smith director of planning and zoning to explain how the planning commission had arrived at the decisions that had been made. Mr. Smith referred to the minor subdivision plat and the development plan that the council had previously received along with the minutes from the last planning and zoning meeting minutes. Along with these items he also shared the comprehensive plan for the city which was adopted in 2006. Mr. Smith focused on goals that had been made for urban land. The goals in the comprehensive plan support the decisions made by planning and zoning for the Kroger development. Councilman Penn asked what concerns the commission had about the development referring to the vote of four to three. Mr. Smith said the one major concern was the fuel station location. He also explained that the Grisham Drive extension provided interconnectivity for dispersing traffic. Councilman Singer expressed concern about the narrowness of Grisham Drive and if the Kroger development had been planned when that road was built would it be the size of one of the collector streets in Bradford Place. Councilman Singer referenced Showalter Drive and Hemingway as collector streets. His concern was that Grisham Drive would become very busy. Mr. Smith referenced a traffic impact study that was done in September of 2010. This study shows that twelve vehicles would pass through this area during pm peak hours. Councilman Singer suggested a sidewalk instead of a road to connect the neighborhood, development, and park. This would still open the area to pedestrians and cyclist.

Eric Larson city engineer addressed council about the approval of the development by the planning commission in March 2011. He referenced KRS which states that this approval is final action on this plan. Mr. Larson said that the Grisham Drive extension and the turnaround were a technicality. Mr. Larson said that the decision to be made during this meeting was providing approval for the construction easement so that Kroger can implement the plan that has been approved. Mr. Larson said that since the change in the land use, from an apartment complex to the Kroger development, there had been concern about the increase in traffic. He explained there would now be turn lanes from Broadway onto Airport Road and signage to divert traffic from the gate entrance when it is closed. The Parks Department will also have signs directing traffic to the park and pool. Mr. Larson also referenced the comprehensive plan and street connectivity. When there is no connectivity there is more congestion on main

roads. There is also increased travel time and more pollution. Citizens are more likely to choose driving over walking and cycling. Mr. Larson does not think traffic will increase significantly on Grisham Drive after citizens see how much longer it takes to get through that area.

Mr. Cornett said that if the connection is eliminated they will have to get preliminary approval in June instead of final approval in June. This would mean final approval would be delayed until July or August.

Concerned Citizen-

Citizen is concerned about his children. He lives at the corner of Chamberlain and Grisham. He feels if Grisham drive is extended that every Bradford resident would use this route to get to Kroger. He suggested speed bumps if the road was approved.

Councilman Singer asked if it would be possible to grant the easement for a sidewalk /bike path. Councilman McEuen compared it to Legacy Trail where signs are posted that only emergency vehicles are allowed. Councilman McEuen asked if this was something Rogers Engineering would consider and Mr. Cornett said he did not see a problem with this. Eric Larson said that planning and zoning would have to amend the plan to remove the connection. Councilman Prather asked if the amendment could be done without slowing the process. Earl Smith said that the subdivision regulations for Georgetown state that if a preliminary has a major amendment which includes disconnect of a road way it will have to go back to the commission as a preliminary. Councilman Penn asked what could be done to expedite this. Mr. Smith said he would go back to the commission and check to see what the appeals process was in the subdivision regulations. The next meeting will be May 9, 2011 and he will bring the issue before the committee.

Concerned Citizen - Clifford Disi

Mr. Disi is the property owner where the connection would pass through on Grisham Drive. He welcomes Kroger as a neighbor and would support a walking path. He is concerned about the decrease in property value in this area if the street is extended.

Turnaround With Gate

Councilman McEuen asked about the gate and the intention of operation. Chief Bruin said that the fire department would be able to open the gate during an emergency but that the purpose of the gate was primarily for Parks and Recreation. Mr. Askew asked about signage and when the gate would be closed. Lois Holms Parks and Recreation Director said that the gate might be open during the day when the park is not busy. The gate would need to be closed at 5:00 pm in the evening for the playground and ball games. Ms. Holmes feels the road would be convenient in the summer months but the gate would have to be monitored closely by her staff. Hours will be determined at a later time. A motion was made by Councilman Singer and seconded by Councilman Prather to approve the turnaround with gate. **Motion Approved, with Councilman Lusby recusing himself.**

A motion was made by Councilman Singer and seconded by Councilman Penn to allow Kroger the construction easement provided that only a sidewalk/bicycle path is built. **Motion Approved, with Councilman Lusby recusing himself.**

6. City Engineer Traffic

Traffic Committee Recommendations

Eric Larson presented four recommendations to council from the Traffic Committee which met on April 12, 2011.

1. Post No Parking on Both Sides of the street within 50 ft of the intersection of Coachman Place and Raise Old Glory
2. Post No Parking on both Sides of the street within 50 ft of the intersection of Military Street and Flinn Court
3. Post no parking this Side of Street on the fire Hydrant side of Aberdine Way and Berkshire Lane from Southgate Drive to Jordan Lane
4. Posting Yield Pedestrian signs at the cross walk on East Main Street in front of Galvan's Restaurant. (2 options)
 - a. A traffic worthy collapsible sign that would be placed in the median
 - b. Post a flashing yield pedestrian crosswalk sign that would be mounted on the curb side on either side of the street if funding is available. These signs cost \$1700.00 each and the traffic calming money has been spent for this fiscal year.Mr. Larson's recommendation is the collapsible sign until money is available for the flashing sign.

Councilman Singer suggested more information was needed about the signage to be placed at the East main Street crosswalk.

A motion was made by Councilman Lusby and seconded by Councilman Penn to accept the recommendations to place no parking signs on Coachman Place and Raise Old Glory, Military Street and Flinn Court, and Aberdine Way and Berkshire Lane. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

7. Finance

2nd READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2011 BUDGET

The second reading of ordinance 11-001 amending Ordinance 10-016 which adopted the budget of the City of Georgetown for fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 was read. A motion was made by Councilman Lusby and seconded by Councilman McEuen to approve Ordinance 11-001. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Approval of Audit Fees

Betty Pendergrass was able to get a detailed invoice as requested by council of the charges that the auditors had billed the city beyond what was quoted. Ms. Pendergrass stated she had been asked by several council members for the letter of engagement from the auditors and has been unable to locate this letter. Councilman Singer expressed concern about the auditors doing work that they had not asked the previous council or the present council about. Ms. Pendergrass said that the engagement letter was required from the audit firm. Mr. Askew said that he would contact the auditors about the letter and Ms. Pendergrass said that she would bring the information back to the next council meeting. This issue has been tabled until the next meeting

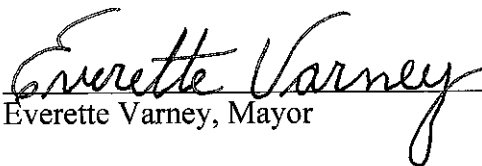
Budget Address

Mayor Varney presented the 2011-2012 fiscal year budget.


The Mayor has asked Councilman Penn to set up meetings for the council with Directors and Employee Task Force. Councilman Singer requested that the city council and fiscal court have a joint budget session stating that one of the city's biggest expenses was the interlocal agreements. Mayor Varney agreed with Councilman Singer and said that he would check with the County Judge Executive.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tackett and seconded by Councilman Thompson to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

APPROVED BY:


Everette Varney, Mayor

ATTESTED BY:


Tracie Hoffman Chew, City Clerk/Treasurer